ABSTRACT

An object comprising a Web document is transferred by a server to a client over a client-server data communications network. Alternatively, the object comprising the Web document can be executed by the server. The object, in turn,

5   causes each object contained therein to execute and output a representation of the object in whatever format is requested by the client. For example, a client can send a request to the server over the data communications network. The requests specifies a particular Web document. The server searches its collection of objects in its object space for the object requested. The server, upon finding

10   the object, and depending upon the nature of the client's request, will transmit the object as is to the client or execute the object. The object outputs a representation of each object contained within the object in a format specified by the client. Thus, if the client requests an HTML formatted Web document, the server executes the object representing the Web document, passing as input to

15   the object an input argument indicating the output of each object within the Web document is to be formatted in HTML.